

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 TRSE-00 /072 W  
-----014146 170413Z /64  
R 161559Z NOV 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9993  
INFO WHITE HOUSE

UNCLAS CARACAS 11160

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY), VE, PGOV (PEREZ)

SUBJ: PRESIDENT PEREZ' COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S STAND  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1. ON NOVEMBER 11 PRESIDENT PEREZ MET WITH THE ENTIRE FRIED-  
SHIP FORCE CONTINGENT (280 PERSONS) FROM NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.  
IN THE COURSE OF HIS EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS HE SPOKE WARMLY  
AND ELOQUENTLY ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S POSITION.  
BECAUSE OF THE SPONTANEITY AND SINCERITY OF HIS REMARKS, WE  
BELIEVE THEY WILL BE OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT AND THE WHITE  
HOUSE AND WE TRANSCRIBE BELOW THE TEXT OF THOSE REMARKS TAKEN FROM  
A TAPE RECORDING OF THE OCCASION:

1. QUOTE: WE EXPECTED PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT IN A FEW DAYS;  
UNFORTUNATELY HE HAD TO POSTPONE HIS VISIT. WE UNDERSTAND IT  
VERY WELL. AND BY EXPERIENCE WE KNOW THAT TO GOVERN IS NOT EASY.  
WE HAVE GREAT FAITH IN THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.  
HE HAS MOVED US DEEPLY WITH HIS ETHICAL MESSAGE TO HUMANITY,  
BECAUSE WITHOUT ANY QUESTION THE UNITED STATES IS A GREAT NATION,  
CERTAINLY THE MOST IMPORTANT NATION IN THE WORLD. AND USUALLY  
GREAT NATIONS HAVE SO MANY PROBLEMS TO TAKE CARE OF, THAT MANY TIMES  
AND I WOULD SAY ALMOST ALWAYS--THEY SEEM TO FORGET THE FUNDAMENTAL  
VALUES OF THE SPIRIT. IT IS COMFORTING TO HEAR THE HEAD OF A  
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GREAT STATE SPEAKING ABOUT THE ETHICAL VALUES OF SOCIETY AND  
REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS AS FUNDAMENTAL IN HIS ADMINISTRATION. IT IS  
VERY POSSIBLE, THAT FOR THE COMMON MAN IN THE UNITED STATES, THIS DOES  
  
NOT HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF SIGNIFICANCE, BECAUSE USUALLY WHEN SOMEONE  
HAS SOMETHING HE DOES NOT GIVE IT THE SAME IMPORTANCE AS THOSE WHO DO  
NOT. THE UNITED STATES IS A GREAT DEMOCRACY; IN THE UNITED STATES

PEOPLE EXERCISE THEIR RIGHTS. HUMAN RIGHTS ARE A TRUE REALITY IN THE UNITED STATES, BUT A LARGE PART OF HUMANITY LIVES UNDER VERY DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES. HERE IN LATIN AMERICA, FOR EXAMPLE, WE HAVE SUFFERED A GREAT DEAL FROM A LACK OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THERE ARE PRACTICALLY NO POLITICAL LEADERS IN LATIN AMERICA WHO HAVE NOT SUFFERED EITHER EXILE OR JAIL OR BOTH. THERE ARE THOUSANDS--HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS--WHO HAVE DIED FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM AND HUMAN DIGNITY AND WHO ARE IMPRISONED AND SUFFERING INHUMAN TORTURE. YES\* WE DO KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO RAISE THE BANNER IN DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. PERHAPS NO MESSAGE FROM A UNITED STATES PRESIDENT HAS GONE SO DEEPLY INTO THE LATIN AMERICAN HEART AS THE MESSAGE OF PRESIDENT CARTER ON HUMAN RIGHTS. I THINK THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES SHOULD FEEL PROUD THAT, THROUGH THE VOICE OF THEIR, PRESIDENT, THIS BANNER IS BEING RAISED SO HIGH AND SO NOBLY. WE DO NOT FEEL THIS PROCLAMATION BY THE PRESIDENT CARTER IS INTERVENING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OUR COUNTRIES BECAUSE HE IS SIMPLY PROCLAIMING PRINCIPLES THAT ALL OUR COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED IN THE UNITED NATIONS OR THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES. WE ARE ALL OBLIGATED TO COMPLY WITH THESE DECLARATIONS, AND TO REMIND NATIONS AND GOVERNMENTS THAT THIS IS A COMMITMENT TO HUMANITY. I THINK THAT THIS IS A DOCTRINE WELL WORTH ESPOUSING AND THAT IT GIVES GREAT PRESTIGE--BEYOND ANYTHING MATERIAL--TO THE GREAT NATION, AND TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THAT NATION, THAT HE HAS DARED TO RAISE THIS ISSUE BEFORE THE WORLD. I AM CERTAIN THAT THERE IS NOT ONE LATIN AMERICAN IN ANY OF OUR COUNTRIES THAT IS NOT IN THIS MOMENT HAPPY AND RECONCILED WITH THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE

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OF THIS STAND BY PRESIDENT CARTER. UNQUOTE.  
VAKY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 16-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770425-0478  
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**Litigation Code IDs:**  
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**Message ID:** bf6f3819-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 573030  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT PEREZ' COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, OVIP, PGOV, VE, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (PEREZ, CARLOS ANDRES)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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